Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 AID-05 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 TRSE-00 /084 W

-----019672 221406Z/53

R 221030Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 654

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMENVASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMEMBASSY MOSCOE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

CONFIDENTIAL COLOMBO 2856

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: CH. CE. PEBR

SUBJ: JUNE 21-25 VISIT TO SRI LANKA OF PRC VICE PREMIER KENG PIAO

- 1. CHINESE CONTACT 22 JUNE VOLUNTEERED TO CHARGE THAT KENG SCHEDULE IS GOING SMOOTHLY. THERE WAS REALLY NOTHING OF ANY SIGNIFICANCE TO DISCUSS WITH GSL, BUT TRIP WAS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE ROUND OF HIGH LEVEL CONTACTS IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD.
- 2. PRC OFFICIAL SAID GSL DID NOT NEED SUBSTANTIAL AID FROM CHINA IN VIEW OF GENEROSITY OF USG AND OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES. PRC-GSL AGREEMENTS IN TALKS WERE BEING MADE KNOWN THROUGH NCNA AS THEY OCCURRED. GSL OFFICIALS HAD NOT INDICATED THEY HAD ANYTHING IN PARTICULAR ON THEIR MINDS AND CHINESE HAD "NOTHING SPECIAL" TO RAISE.

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3. COMMENT: OUR EXAMINATION OF NCNA/FBIS COVERAGE THUS FAR SUPPORTS BLAND DESCRIPTION OFFERED ABOVE. ALSO REFERENCES IN LOCAL MEDIA TO CHINESE ASSISTANCE INCLUDE SUCH QUALIFYERS AS "MINOR" AND "SUPPLEMENTARY". EQUAL SPACE IS DEVOTED TO DISCUSSING ADVANTAGES OF SL-PRC EXCHANGING VISITS OF ACUPUNCTURISTS, AYURVEDIC PHYSICIANS, AND THE LIKE. LEVIN

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Subject: JUNE 21-25 VISIT TO SRI LANKA OF PRC VICE PREMIER KENG PIAO

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